

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2011

Kurt Spaulding, Region 1 Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square- Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Administrator Spaulding,

We are writing to you today to respectfully request a 90-day extension of the public comment period for the Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Public Service Company of New Hampshire's (PSNH) Merrimack Station in Bow, New Hampshire.

While we appreciate the EPA's action on this issue to protect the Merrimack River, we believe an additional 90-day extension period is necessary to allow PSNH the time to fully review and prepare a complete response to the Determination Document. Due to both the complexity of this document and the time elapsed since the application for permit reissuance was filed in 1997, we believe PSNH is due a 90-day extension to comprehensively review the entire document.

For these reasons, we urge your consideration of a 90-day extension to the public comment period. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Respectfully,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Kelly Ayotte
United States Senator



Charles F. Bass
United States Representative



Frank Guinta
United States Representative